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AFGHANISTAN

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FACT SHEET

Community-Based Stabilization Grants (CBSG)

OVERVIEW

Launched in March 2010, the Community-Based Stabilization Grants (CBSG) project is designed to support coalition forces' counterinsurgency (COIN) efforts to "hold" communities after military operations, connecting Afghan citizens with Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) sub-national institutions and informal leadership structures to insulate communities from further insurgent intrusion. The project facilitates partnerships between community-based organizations, traditional leadership and GIROA to identify sources of instability and address community grievances through small-scale community level projects in 14 provinces in the northern, western, and central regions. Projects are limited in size – the maximum grant award is \$25,000 – and duration, with most concluding within six months.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Conduct small-scale infrastructure construction and rehabilitation including culverts, floodwalls, irrigation canals, water-supply, schools, health clinics and public meeting halls
- Procure and/or repair furniture and equipment or materials for schools, clinics and meeting halls, disability support, and emergency response
- Provide training and capacity building for disability support groups, farmers associations and youth associations, and gender-related activities and campaigns
- Facilitate community participation through peace jirgas, District Development Assembly activities, and environmental awareness campaigns
- Provide access to radio/television equipment and training in content production to give communities a voice on issues of local importance

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed 500 community stabilization grants
- Generated more than 30,000 days of employment
- Increased community participation and ownership in local development
- Increased capacity of GIROA officials to engage beneficiary communities, understanding and responding to their grievances
- Improved the public perception of government legitimacy through more collaboration and improved relationships between GIROA officials and citizens